What is claimed is:

1. A method of facilitating the information gathering and documentation phases of a custom design process, said method comprising the steps of:

generating a first set of data structures for storing design constraint information, said first set of data structures comprising two or more tables, at least one of said tables in said first set being used to store firm design constraints, at least one other of said tables in said first set being used to hold flexible design constraints; and

determining said design constraint information; and

storing said design constraint information in at least one of said two or more tables; and

assigning a class attribute to each design constraint; and

generating a second set of data structures for processing said design constraint information, said second set of data structures being greater in number than said first set, said class attributes determining the relationship between said first set of data structures and said second set of data structures; and

translating said stored design constraint information from said first set of data structures into said second set of data structures for subsequent processing during said custom design process.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said custom design process is an information technology architecture design process.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein said first set of data structures comprises a plurality of tables for storing firm design constraints.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said first set of data structures comprises a plurality of tables for storing flexible design constraints.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said storing is performed on an electronic computer.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said translating is performed by said electronic computer.

7. At least one program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying at least one program of instructions executable by machine to perform a method for facilitating the information gathering and documentation phases of a custom design process, said method comprising the steps of:

generating a first set of data structures for storing design constraint information, said first set of data structures comprising two or more tables, at least one of said tables in said first set being used to store firm design constraints, at least one other of said tables in said first set being used to hold flexible design constraints; and

determining said design constraint information; and

storing said design constraint information in at least one of said two or more tables; and

assigning a class attribute to each design constraint; and

generating a second set of data structures for processing said design constraint information, said second set of data structures being greater in number than said first set, said class attributes determining the relationship between said first set of data structures and said second set of data structures; and

translating said stored design constraint information from said first set of data structures into said second set of data structures for subsequent processing during said custom design process.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said custom design process is an information technology architecture design process.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein said first set of data structures comprises a plurality of tables for storing firm design constraints.

10. The method of claim 7, wherein said first set of data structures comprises a plurality of tables for storing flexible design constraints.

11. A device for facilitating the information gathering and documentation phases of a custom design process, said device comprising:

an input device for entering design constraint information;

storage means for storing said design constraint information, including at least one data structure storing flexible design constraints, and further including at least one data structure storing firm design constraints;

association means for assigning one or more attributes to each of said design constraints;

a display for presenting said stored design constraints and assigned attributes to a user;

a processor for translating said stored design constraint information from said stored data structures into a structured design document for subsequent processing during said custom design process.

12. The device of claim 11, wherein said custom design process is an information technology architecture design process.

13. The device of claim 11, wherein a plurality of data structures store flexible design constraints.

14. The device of claim 11, wherein a plurality of data structures store firm design constraints.

15. The device of claim 11, wherein said processor is an electronic computer.

16. The device of claim 15, wherein said input device is a pointing device.

17. The device of claim 15, wherein said input device is a text input device.